

Vidor, Tx 8/28/69
Onaluma, Tx 4/3/94

Oak Grove, La. 9/9/51
Saw Lake, Tx 10/3/54
Brown, Tx 10/16/60
Bridge City, Tx 8/10/63

Peter Denial, Steps Leading To

1. Peter had been called from Sea of Galilee as a fisherman to follow Christ, To become a fisher of men, etc.
2. The three years that followed produced an ardent, sincere and attached man--Faithful to Christ, his Master.
3. Yet, we view Peter denying his Lord.
4. There were certain definite steps which lead to his denial.
THESE SHOULD SERVE TO WARN US OF THE SAME DANGERS.

BODY:

I. HE WAS OVER-CONFIDENT---Mt 26:33,35.

Christ warned him, but he knew he wouldn't, not possible.
Yet, before dawn had denied him 3 times, swearing and cursing
Peter placed too much reliance on his own strength, "I will...
Over-confidence is a dangerous thing, especially when we
have been pre-warned

We need to recognize our dependance upon Christ for all things
By ourselves we are nothing

1 Cor 10:12-- thinketh stand, take heed lest ye fall....

One is at great danger when self-confident.

(How often do people reason---"I will not do that...."

"I can mix with them, and not become a part of it...."

Confident is own wisdom, strength, abilities, energies, etc.

II. HE WAS INDIFFERENT** Mt 26:40

While Jesus prayed, Peter slept Had been warned to watch.
Yet grew sleepy heady, not alert, not keen to the dangers.
Many today are growing sleepy headed, indifferent, unconcerned,
LEADS TO DENIAL, OPEN REJECTION.

It is wise to be alert, wide awake in the Lord's cause.

Rom 13:11-14--awake

1 Cor 11:30---Do not understand the Lord's supper.

Titus 2:14---we are to do good works.

HOW MUCH CONCERN DO WE HAVE FOR CHURCH, WORSHIP, CLASSES

III. PETER ACTED OUTWARDLY OF THE FLESH** Mt 26:51

When enemies came, he drew sword--Did not ask Christ what to do
Christ rebuked him--**Mt 52**

Peter was quick to act, not realizing results.

We must be careful or we will react like this.

People who are quick to act, but in ways not becoming to
Christians. Impulse of the flesh, of the moment.

Cannot render evil for evil, but rather good for evil.

A Christian will consult the will and spirit of the Lord,

What would He have me do???

"My ways are not your ways; neither are your thoughts
my thoughts."

IV. HE BECAME CONNECTED WITH WORLDLY COMPANIONS---Mt 26:58,69

Got into the wrong crowd, with those who cared not for Christ.
Instead of staying close to Lord, as he said he would.

Mt 26:69--Sitting without

In the midst of worldly ones he did not have the courage to
stay true to the Lord.

WE TODAY, When we get into wrong crowd will be led to deny O
Associations can lead us astray.

Must be careful about our companions. **1 Cor 15:33**

"If you run with the dogs, you will get flees."

Young people need much guidance here, Parents need to teach
them that they cannot act like lustful world,

Young people don't want to be different, so they act like
those who do not care for Christ--MUST BE GUIDED.

Very difficult to swim upstream, Go against the crowd.

V. HE PERMITTED SIN TO REMAIN IN HIS LIFE:

Sin increased until he had denied Lord three times.

Even began to curse and swear, Knew what he was doing.

Sin when remaining in lives and hearts will undermine our
faith, increase our fear of men, and leads to denial.

Child of God does not instantly turn his back on his Lord.

A process of cooling off, drifting away, excusing self, etc

How easy it is to blaim others on our shortcomings,

Easy to justify our mistakes,

Let us come out of sin before sins lead to open denial.

CONCLUSION:

1. Peter's denial is an example for us today. No doubt that
many have followed the same path.
2. ~~can 6:1~~ **1 Cor 11:16-17** *Col. 4:5*
"Look carefully how ye talk, not as unwise but as wise.."
3. The bright side of the whole incident is that Peter realized
his condition, repented and preached the first gospel ser.
Mt 26:75--Tears of repentance, sorrow.
Lk. 15:17-20--Prodigal son recognized his condition and arose
1 Jn 1:8-9--Christ will forgive if we but repent.